

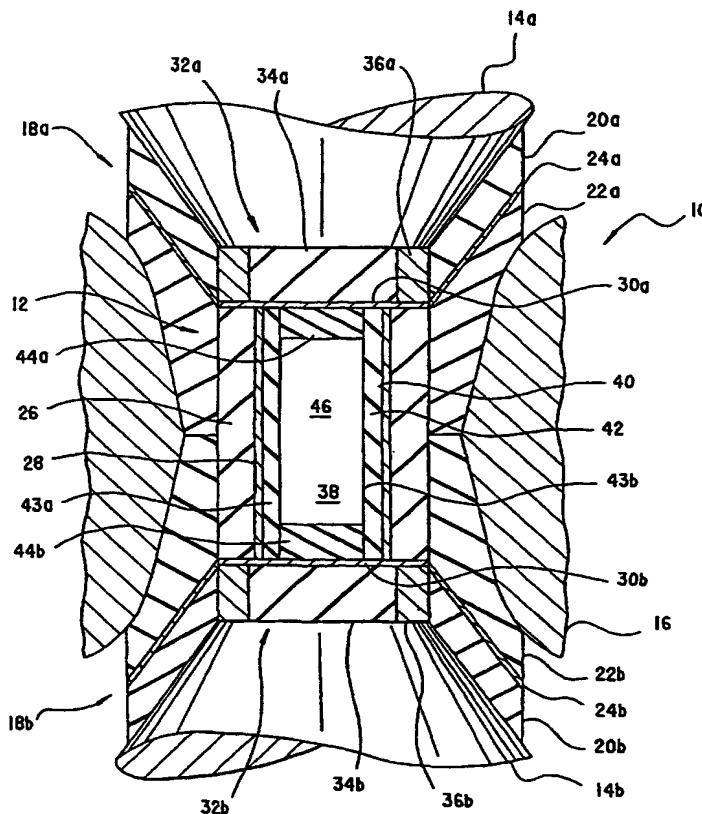
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60/150,979 25 August 1999 (25.08.1999) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY [US/US]; One Plastics Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201-3697 (US).**

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **ANTHONY,****Thomas, Richard [US/US]; 2142 Lynnwood Drive, Schenectady, NY 12309-2514 (US). VAGARALI, Suresh, Shankarappa [IN/US]; 6867 Linbrook Boulevard, Columbus, OH 43235 (US).**(74) Agent: **OSTROFF, Joseph, S.; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 1800 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036-5869 (US).**(81) Designated States (*national*): **AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.**(84) Designated States (*regional*): **ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European***[Continued on next page]*(54) Title: **HIGH PRESSURE/HIGH TEMPERATURE PRODUCTION OF COLORED DIAMONDS**

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a method for treating discolored natural diamonds, especially Type IaB diamond and Type IaA/B diamonds with platelets for improving their color. The method includes placing a discolored natural diamond in a pressure transmitting medium (40) which is consolidated into a pill. Next, the pill is placed into a high pressure/high temperature (HP/HT) press (10) at elevated pressure and elevated temperature within the graphite stable or diamond stable range of the carbon phase diagram for a time sufficient to improve the color of said diamond. Finally, the diamond is recovered from said press (10). Attractive yellowish-green, greenish-yellow and neon yellow-green diamonds can be made by this method.

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